(d) the action taken by Government against the cotton seed companies employing child labourers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Criteria for giving reservation to SC/STs and OBCs

*329. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the system adopted while giving reservation to SC/STs and OBCs in Civil Services and competitive examinations held by UPSC, SSC, etc.;

(b) whether it is a fact that while allocation is made to SC/STs and OBCs, even meritorious reserved category candidates are also included in it; and

(c) whether Government would change this system of allocation for the benefit of the SC/STs and the OBCs?;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) Reservation to SCs, STs and OBCs in posts filled by UPSC, SSC etc. on All India basis is available at the rate of 15%, 7.5% and 27% respectively. Number of reserved vacancies is determined on the basis of post-based reservation rosters. Reserved category candidates selected on their own merit are not adjusted against reserved vacancies.

(b) The reserved category candidates recommended in the General Merit list by the UPSC, SSC etc. are included in the reserve list in the matter of their service allocation only if it is to their advantage.

(c) In view of the above, No, Sir.

Upgradation of certain ESI Hospitals in Karnataka

*330. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government have sought upgradation of

Belgaum, Chitradurga, Davangere, Haveri and Hubli ESI hospitals in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the present status of the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has submitted proposals for upgradation of ESI Hospitals at Indiranagar (Bangalore), Mysore, Davangere, Hubli, Belgaum and Dandeli. There is no such proposal for Chitradurga and Haveri where ESI does not have a hospital.

(b) The Government of Karnataka has requested for sanction of equipments worth Rs. 5.81 crore for the above mentioned six hospitals.

(c) The proposals have been received by the ESI Corporation only recently and al the essential equipments will be provided soon.

Condition of Devidhar Telephone Centre

†*331. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of Devidhar Telehpnoe Centre under Rohru Telephone Exchange in Shimla District is very bad;

(b) whether the present range of BSNL tower is limited to main Bazar Rohru only;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up one additional BSNL tower between Sima and Badiyara so that more people would be benefited; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) No, Sir. The Devidhar Telephone Exchange is working satisfactorily. The Telephone exchange is a 256 line C-DOT Exchange (ANRAX) which is connected to Rohru Exchange on reliable media, *i.e.* Opitcal Fiber Cable (OFC). During the current year, upto November 2004, the exchange was affected two times,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.